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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.  
§1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 3731**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Kevin S. Weadock, et al.      **Examiner:** D.P. Erez  
**Serial No:** 10/085,738      **Art Unit:** 3731  
**Filed:** February 28, 2002      **Docket:** 15314 (ETH-1636)  
**For:** SPONGE FOR CREATING AN      **Dated:** July 6, 2006  
ANASTOMOSIS BETWEEN VESSELS

**Confirmation No.:** 8872

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

DO NOT ENTER  
7/27/06  
XZ

**AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Sir:

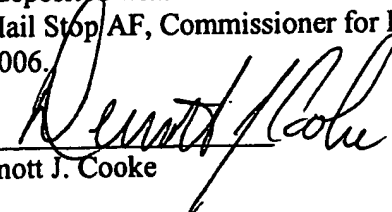
Applicants submit this Amendment, and request entry thereof, in reply to the

Office Action mailed May 2, 2006.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 6, 2006.

Dated: July 6, 2006

  
Dermott J. Cooke